Attorney Docket No.: 1743/179

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Katsuaki ABE, et al.

Serial No.09/211319 To be assigned

Filed

March 19, 2001

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

> INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.56

SIR:

The subject application was filed on March 19, 20 4, together with an assignment in favor of HITACHI, LTD. and HITACHI SICENCE SYSTEMS, LTD., and claimed the priority of Japanese Patent Application 2000-260877, filed August 25, 2000.

Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner the following prior art publications:

- Japanese Patent Publication No. 6-310072.
- Japanese Patent Publication No. 64-84555.

These publications are listed on the attached form PTO-1449 and copies are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

It is requested that these publications be considered and made of record herein.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 11-0600 for any fees required by this paper, a copy of which is enclosed.

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One Broadway New York, NY 10004 (212) 425-7200 Dated: March 23, 2001 Respectfully submitted,

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